

# Accounting Historians Notebook

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## President's message [1981, vol. 4, no. 1]

Richard P. Brief

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The annual Trustees meeting and business meeting will take place at the Executive House, 71 Wacker Drive, Chicago, on August 6, 1981. The hotel is adjacent to the American Accounting Association convention center at the Hyatt Regency. Ken Elvik did an excellent job making these arrangements. The Trustees' meeting begins at 7:30 a.m. and includes a sumptuous breakfast.

As a result of last year's decision not to affiliate with the AAA, the Academy is no longer provided facilities by the AAA. Consequently, there will not be an "Academy Session" at the meetings. However, Tom Johnson has done a splendid job organizing an accounting history session under AAA auspices.

The financial position of The Academy looks pretty good at this point. Thanks to Dick Vangermeersch, we are not only getting timely reports but we are also investing wisely. Dick put \$10,000 into a CD earlier this year. Al Roberts reports that our demand schedule is reasonably inelastic, i.e., the increase in fees to \$20 did not materially reduce our membership. In addition, we received (or are about to) checks from Arthur Andersen (\$2,000) and Professor Osamu Kojima (\$2,000) to support research projects. At the Trustees' meeting we will discuss the idea of putting part of this money into an endowment fund. All of our cost or profit centers seem to be on target for 1980, and 1981 budgets have been prepared. We have gone to what is essentially cash flow accounting and I am confident that this system will enable us to improve our financial controls.

Other events to report include the planning for the Centenary of the American Association of Public Accountants. Gary Previts agreed to head a working committee which includes Art Wyatt and Phil Pomerantz. On the publication front, Littleton's classic work, *Accounting Evolution to 1900*, has been reprinted and Kohler's anthology, edited by Cooper, Ijiri and Previts, appeared earlier this year. Jim Gaertner has taken over the Monograph Series from Gary Previts, who organized it several year's ago.

We need a volunteer for a project to increase membership. Anyone interested should contact me or Al Roberts. Specifically, I think that if we began to match individual memberships with institutional (library) members we would find that many of our own libraries are not getting *The Accounting Historians Journal*. For example, neither of New York University's business school libraries are subscribers. Does anyone have an interest in marketing?

The Academy, thanks to its Officers; Trustees; Journal Staff; Editors of the *NOTEBOOK*, Working Paper Series, Monograph Series and Classic Reprint Series; and to many others, is now a "going concern." I would like to hear your ideas and suggestions for further improvement.

Richard P. Brief

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### MANUSCRIPTS AND SHAGGY DOG STORIES

Anyone wishing to submit article manuscripts, short notes, news items, cartoons, shaggy dog stories, letters to the editor, or other filler to THE ACCOUNTING HISTORIANS NOTEBOOK should send the material to the editor, Dale L. Flesher, School of Accountancy, University of Mississippi, University, MS 38677.

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